

HOCUS-POCUS / --- Hal E. Roach.

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The picture tells the story of "Red" and "Crab Apple", who suddenly find that they are unable to pay their landlady the desired rent. The woman's daughter, Marie, has high and lofty ideals--she wants to be a tumbler, and favors Pollard, because of his knowledge of the stage. The landlady walks in on her two boarders just as they are practising the old knife-throwing act. Unable to pay, they offer to give a show for the boarders, hoping to reap a big enough harvest to soothe the woman's wrath and get out of town. All the boarders gather to see the performance de luxe and are first shocked to see Pollard beheaded before their very eyes. The stunts work very well until a mouse disturbs "Snub" and gives away the trick. After the excitement has subsided, Pollard's partner requests a number of genuine diamond rings and gold watches in order to present the surprise trick of the evening. The surprise consists of the partner eloping with the jewelry. But "Snub" has fallen desperately in love with Marie, and for her sake he performs an even bigger trick and recovers the "swag."

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